

Saskatoon Police Service

Case Study “Kirk”



History:

Police first met Kirk after he moved out of social service group home support.

Since that time officers have seen a drastic spike in his use of drugs leading to many calls for service and criminal offenses such as assault on staff at shelters and security guards.

He has also been found in possession of various weapons resulting in additional criminal charges

Outcome

Since January of 2022, Kirk has been diverted by Police countless times where they avoided bringing him to police detention. However, there have been 16 times where he was arrested for being intoxicated by drug, destabilizing his mental health. In those situations he was taken to the SPS Detention Unit.

It was evident to officers that the more Kirk used drugs, the more his mental health deteriorated. And the combination of the drugs and mental health led to criminal offences with increased violence and the use of weapons.

Kirk was eventually banned from all shelters due to his violent behavior and as a result, the Detention Unit was the only option.

Police transported Kirk to hospital for mental health assessments on several occasions, however he was always released back into the community. Mental health warrants were issued as well, however officers weren't always able to locate him within the timeframe of the warrant.

The most recent involvement with Kirk was while he was intoxicated by drugs and his mental health was suffering. He believed he was a corporal of an army and walked down a busy main street with a loaded gun pointing it at people. Kirk was arrested by police before anyone was harmed. Kirk is only 22 years old.

Demographics:

- * Male
- * 22 years old
- * Indigenous
- * Homeless

Complex needs:

- * Drugs
- * Mental Health
- * Housing

SPS INVOLVEMENT

- ◇ 16 SOPA arrests
- ◇ 3 Agra tickets
- ◇ 5 Criminal charges of assault / possess weapons/ pointing firearm
- ◇ 6 Fail to attend court
- ◇ 2 Mental Health assessments
- ◇ 4 Mental Health warrants
- ◇ 3 Agra tickets
- ◇ Several calls to move along where he was diverted by police